

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET** 25X1
 COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO. 25X1
 TOPIC General Information from the Rathenow Area

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 2 to 9 May 1952

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 4 June 1952

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE
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1. On 2 May 1952, the Kraftfahrer Kaserne on Semlinerstrasse, Rathenow (N 53/2 15), was occupied by between 350 and 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. About 45 guns were observed in the gun sheds on the north side of the installation. About 100 troops practiced in the barracks yard. 25X1

2. On 3 May, the Infanterie Kaserne near Nordbahnhof was vacant except for a guard detail of about 100 troops.

3. On 2 May, the Pionier Kaserne on Rudolf Breitscheidstrasse was vacant except for a guard detail of about 100 troops. (1)

4. On 5 May, a column including a jeep, a tank, radio truck 25X1 and tank car 25X1 passed through Sydow, west of Rathenow. An informant stated that this column was observed regularly each, using country roads and proceeding from town to town. Tracks were still visible from the previous trip of the column. (2)

5. On 5 May, about two thirds of the buildings of an insane asylum in Jerichow 20 km west of Rathenow, were occupied by troops with a sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The remaining third of the buildings quartered a German civilian tuberculosis sanatorium. (3)

6. On 9 May, 2 captains wearing signal insignia, 1 senior lieutenant with artillery insignia and 3 EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia inspected the wooden emergency bridge at the lock in Rathenow. 25X1

25X1 In the forenoon, the same detachment was seen in conversation with the shunter at the Rathenow freight station. (4)

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25X1 7. Between 4 and 5 p.m. on 9 May, a ceremony at which a wreath was deposited took place at the Soviet memorial and was commanded by a colonel who was commander in the Kraftfahrer Kaserne [redacted]. He reviewed the troops. The troops were led by another colonel and marched in the following order: 1 colonel, 12 musicians, 24 men in four-man groups, 100 troops in six-man groups and 500 men in four-man groups including about 30 to 40 officers. Most of the soldiers wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, but some wore red-bordered black epaulets without artillery insignia. The last 20 rows of the block of 500 troops was led by 2 sergeants. These soldiers wore red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia. All soldiers proceeded to the Kraftfahrer Kaserne after the review. (1)

25X1 8. Between 2 and 9 p.m. on 2 May, a staff conference involving numerous officers unknown to source took place in the conference room of the headquarters building of the Ziethen Kaserne. The officers wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia and arrived in motor vehicles [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] The officers, as well as their vehicles, remained at the installation until 3 May. A driver said that they would leave for Naun (N 53/3 45) at about noon and they would eat in Naun before proceeding to Potsdam (N 53/2 63). (5)

25X1 [redacted] Comments.
(1) Other information indicated that the elements of the 10th How Arty Brig, which had remained in the Kraftfahrer Kaserne, also went to Altengrabow during the period from 12 to 16 May. [redacted] Previous information indicated that the two other barracks installations were only occupied by guard details. See

25X1 (2) [redacted]
25X1 (3) This is the first information on this installation.
(4) [redacted] 25X1
(5) Officers of headquarters units of the corps and the 2d and 6th Cds AAA Divs participated in the conference. It was probably conducted by the headquarters of the IV Arty Corps.

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